

CITY OF ASHTON  
2191 NETTLE AVENUE  
ASHTON, IOWA 51232-7042

January 12, 2012

Docket No: A2012-97

The City of Ashton would like to reinforce why we feel our post office should not be closed.

The Ashton post office was closed under an emergency suspension due to poor environmental working conditions. We worked very hard with postal officials to reopen a local office on a temporary basis while trying to achieve a full-time post office.

We worked with postal officials to find a permanent location with the intent of the construction of a new post office. When the City of Ashton met with Gary Mattox on April 15, 2010 at a public hearing, he wanted Ashton to have a new 5 year lease so that we would avoid the issue of having our post office close. We requested a full-time post master, but did not receive one.

We have shown that our population is similar to or larger than other nearby communities and definitely larger than the vast majority of other post office locations being considered for closure in Iowa.

All conversations with the postal service have been one-sided. They have completely ignored any evidence that was presented

to them and have not responded to any issues that were presented to them.

The City of Ashton has a large number of elderly residents and it would be a major hardship for them not to have a local post office. The nearest post office would be 10 miles away and we do not feel that that is serving our residents properly.

Businesses have time sensitive materials that need to be delivered and they are unable to rely on the postal service if we do not have a post office in Ashton.

No discussion with the City of Ashton has ever been held as to what would happen if the post office is closed, so businesses as well as all of the residents are unsure whether they will have any postal services here or not.

We received a notice on January 10, 2012 which was dated January 4, 2012 regarding the appeal of the postal service's determination to close the Ashton Post Office. The deadline to submit an argument was January 13<sup>th</sup>. We do not feel that we were given an adequate amount of time to respond.

The City of Ashton therefore submits these arguments against the closing of the Ashton Post Office.

Sincerely,

CITY OF ASHTON

Nancy A. Marnach  
City Clerk

